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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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AMEMBASSY BONN
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USCINCEUR
USDOCOSOUTH
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2247

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PORG CY TU
SUBJECT: MAKARIOS, CHRISTOPHIDES PREPARE GROUND FOR COLOMBO
CONFERENCE

1. IN INTERVIEW WITH TANJUG (YUGOSLAV NEWS AGENCY) CORRESPONDENT GIVEN AUGUST 3 AND RELEASED HERE AUGUST 5, ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS CALLED NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT "MORAL CORE IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY" AND HOPED UPCOMING COLOMBO CONFERENCE WOULD MANIFEST UNITY OF PURPOSE ON BASIS OF PRINCIPLE. CLAIMING NON-ALIGNED POLICY HAD ENABLED CYPRUS TO BASE ITS RELATIONS ON PRINCIPLES
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NOT ALLIANCES, MAKARIOS MAINTAINED THIS POLICY HAD MADE POSSIBLE

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FOR COUNTRY TO RETAIN INDEPENDENT IDENTITY.

2. SPEAKING DIRECTLY TO CYPRUS PROBLEM, ARCHBISHOP EXPECTED COLOMBO SUMMIT CONFERENCE WILL CALL UNANIMOUSLY "FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF U. N. RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRUS." CRITICIZING TURKISH ATTITUDES FOR FAILURE TO DATE OF PROTRACTED NEGOTIATIONS, HE DECLARED, "WE ARE PREPARED TO ENTER INTO MEANINGFUL TALKS AND TO NEGOTIATE FOR A COMPROMISE" BUT SUCH COMPROMISE CANNOT INCLUDE ACCEPTANCE OF "NEW REALITIES CREATED BY USE OF MILITARY FORCE OR CONSTITUTE A DANGER TO INDEPENDENCE AND UNITY OF CYPRUS." REAFFIRMING AS PRECONDITIONS OF COMPROMISE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, SETTLEMENT AND PROPERTY, HE REPATED THAT "FORCEABLE EXCHANGE OF POPULATIONS AND PROPERTY CANNOT BE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM."

3. FOLLOWING DAY AUGUST 4, FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHIDES ADDRESSED GATHERING OF JOURNALISTS AND DIPLOMATS AT PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE IN NICOSIA ON HISTORY OF CYPRUS PROBLEM. AT END OF SPEECH HE STATED: "THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE TALKS IS CLEAR AND LEAVES NO ROOM FOR MISREPRESENTATION. WE VIEW THE NEGOTIATIONS AS THE BEST AVAILABLE MEANS FOR FINDING A PEACEFUL, JUST AND VIABLE SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. WE APPROACH THE TALKS WITH GOODWILL AND IN POSITIVE MANNER. THE TALKS, HOWEVER, MUST BE CONDUCTED MEANINGFULLY AND CONSTRUCTIVELY IN GOOD FAITH AND ON THE BASIS OF THE SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS UNDERTAKEN IN VIENNA LST FEBRUARY....WE ARE PREPARED TO ENDORSE A COMPROMISE SOLUTION WHICH, HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT PUT IN JEOPARDY THE UNITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF CYPRUS." DURING QUESTION PERIOD FOLLOWING SPEECH, CHRISTOPHIDES RESPONDED ALONG SIMILARLY POSITIVE LINE TO QUESTIONS CONCERNING NEGOTIATIONS AND DOWNPLAYED POSSIBLE VALUE OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CYPRUS.

4. COMMENT: GOC APPEARS TO BE GETTING ITS PUBLIC IMAGE IN ORDER FOR COLOMBO CONFERNECE AND UNGA. CHRISTOPHIDES' REMARKS ON GREEK CYPRIOT ATTITUDE TOWARD NEGOTIATIONS IS UNUSUALLY POSITIVE AND INTER ALIA SHOULD PROVE USEFUL TO GOC IN PRESENTING CASE TO OTHER NON-ALIGNED. ARCHBISHOP'S REFERENCE TO MORALITY AND UNANIMOUS CALL FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF UN RESOLUTIONS INDICATES GOC WILL BE PRESSING CONFERENCE FOR STRONGLY PRO-GREEK CYPRIOT RESOLUTION. END COMMENT.
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